Water Sector Trust Fund

Financing the Water Sector

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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 501
27TH – 31ST JANUARY 2025

WATERFUND CHAMPIONS SOLAR ENERGY FOR AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Water Sector Trust Fund (WaterFund) actively participated in a Solar for Agriculture Workshop hosted at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). Organized by the International Water Management Institute, the workshop convened key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Energy, Netherlands Development Organization (SNV), the World Bank, Farmerline, the Kenya Renewable Energy Association (KEREA), and the Global Association for the Off-grid Solar Energy Industry (GOGLA), among others.

Eng. Vincent Kabuti, OGW, Irrigation Secretary from the State Department for Irrigation, officially opened the workshop, emphasizing the transformative potential of solar energy in enhancing agricultural productivity. He highlighted its role in reducing post-harvest losses and promoting climate-resilient farming practices. However, he also noted key challenges to adopting solar irrigation systems, including knowledge gaps, technological resistance, and the need for capacity building among end users. To address these barriers, he proposed solutions such as peer learning, collective action, improved monitoring systems, research investments, skilled workforce development, and the establishment of an appropriate curriculum.

Representing WaterFund at the workshop was Eng. Nicodemus Onunga, who provided critical insights into the challenges faced in integrating solar energy within agricultural infrastructure. In his presentation, he highlighted technical and infrastructural barriers, as well as the need for innovative approaches to scale up solar-powered irrigation. Eng. Onunga also took the opportunity to present an overview of WaterFund's mandate, scope, and its significant impact on underserved communities across Kenya.

WaterFund continues to play a pivotal role in supporting sustainable water and sanitation projects, particularly in marginalized areas. By participating in such high-level forums, WaterFund reinforces its commitment to advancing renewable energy solutions for water access and agricultural development. Ultimately, these efforts contribute to enhanced livelihoods and climate resilience through its programmes, most notably the Water and Livelihood Programme and the Sustainable Management and Access to Water and Sanitation in the ASALs Programme.



Left: Eng. Vincent Kabuti, OGW, Irrigation Secretary, State Department for Irrigation making his opening remarks

Right: Participants posing for a group photo after the workshop



WATERFUND MEETINGS:

During the week meetings took place as highlighted below:

- On the 27th January, 2025, WaterFund hosted a delegation from Eldoret Water and Sanitation Company Limited (ELDOWAS) to deliberate on opportunities for support. The discussions also covered a review of the ongoing projects. Chairing the discussions was Mr. Willis Ombai CEO WaterFund. ELDOWAS was represented by Dr. Lawrence Tanui Managing Director, Eng. Joseph Maiyo, Technical Manager and CPA Timothy Kiptala, Finance Manager.



Mr. Willis Ombai charing the meeting at WaterFund Boardroom



ELDOWAS Representatives during the meeting with WaterFund



WaterFund and ELDOWAS representative during the meeting

BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #264– WATERFUND PARTICIPATES IN THE 4TH WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH) STAKEHOLDERS MEETING IN TURKANA COUNTY

The WaterFund's Situation Report No. 264 (SITREP #264) covered the period **26th to 29thMay, 2020**. Among the highlights was that Hon. Chris Aletia, County Executive Committee member of Turkana County's Ministry of Water, Environment and Mineral Resources, spearheaded the fourth Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) stakeholders meeting which took place in Turkana County. The implementing partners present were urged to offer support in terms of resources in a bid to fight against the effects of Covid-19 and cholera outbreak amongst other issues.

The partners present included: Water Sector Trust Fund, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), OXFAM, World Vision Kenya, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Kenya Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (KDRDIP), World Food Programme (WFP), and Lotus Kenya Action for Development Organization (LOKADO) and other Sub County officials.

During the meeting, the staff on the ground were provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and maintained the recommended Social Distancing guidelines in response to World Health Organization (WHO) Covid-19 prevention guidelines.


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SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) # 264

26TH – 29TH MAY 2020

WATERFUND PARTICIPATES IN THE 4TH WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH) STAKEHOLDERS MEETING IN TURKANA COUNTY

FIELD ACTIVITIES: MONITORING EXERCISES

BLAST FROM THE PAST: FEATURED IN SITREP #101 – WATERFUND AND KENYA RED CROSS MEETING WITH THE CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF WATER AND IRRIGATION

For this issue and all previous SITREPs, please visit: https://waterfund.go.ke/sitreps